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Canon celebrates production of 10,000 digital radiography systems

TOKYO, September 2, 2009—Canon Inc. today announced the achievement of a medical equipment manufacturing milestone as cumulative production of the company's CXDI digital radiography systems surpassed the 10,000-unit mark. The accomplishment was reached over a period of ten years and nine months, beginning with the launch of the CXDI-11 in December 1998.

Canon began research and development on X-ray imaging sensors in 1993, leading to the introduction in December 1998 of the world's first digital radiography system, the CXDI-11, equipped with Canon's proprietary LANMIT (Large Area New MIS Sensor and TFT) flat-panel detector. In addition to making possible the confirmation of an on-screen preview image in approximately three seconds following exposure, the CXDI-11 also enabled the transmission of examination orders and the sharing of image data over intra-hospital networks. The system created a stir in the industry with its range of groundbreaking features not found in conventional radiography systems.

Canon went on to build a comprehensive DR system product lineup with the introduction of such models as the Bucky-type CXDI-22, launched in September 2000; the CXDI-31, the world's first portable DR system, released in September 2001; the portable CXDI-50G launched in December 2003, featuring a large imaging area; and the CXDI-40C, also launched in December 2003, equipped with a Cesium Iodide (CsI) scintillator that delivers high sensitivity while reducing X-ray exposure for the patient.

Canon's CXDI series of DR systems have been lauded by members of the medical community and research institutions for their rapid-display capability, high image quality, and high reliability. Accordingly, the systems have been installed at countless medical and healthcare facilities worldwide. In 2005, the company's large-area sensor for real-time digital X-ray imaging was awarded Japan's prestigious Imperial Invention Prize, the highest honor of the National Commendation for Invention.

Additionally, the CXDI-50G and other Canon compact, lightweight DR systems, which offer outstanding portability, have proven invaluable in such areas as home healthcare and disaster relief missions. The CXDI-50G was used after the earthquake that struck central China's Sichuan Province in 2008 in the examination of a survivor rescued after 139 hours buried under rubble. These compact systems have also contributed to an expanded range of applications for digital radiography in fields outside of conventional medicine, including the examination of animals, such as the checking of leg injuries on racing horses, and the inspection of artifacts and other remains at archaeological excavation sites.

Canon is now working on the development of a new portable flat-panel DR system capable of both viewing dynamic and capturing static X-ray images with plans to enter the medical fluoroscopic device market.

Taking advantage of its proprietary sensor and imaging technologies, Canon aims to realize further market expansion by maximizing the performance of DR systems that combine dynamic-image viewing and static image capture, while also enhancing the company's overall DR system lineup. Additionally, through the promotion of filmless X-ray procedures at healthcare facilities and provision of strong support for monitor diagnosis, the company intends to contribute to improved diagnostic accuracy and more efficient examination procedures.

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For further information please contact Richard Berger (tel: 03-5482-8055; fax: 03-5482-5130; e-mail: richard.berger@canon.co.jp) or Benjamin Milam (tel: 03-5482-3805; fax: 03-5482-5130; e-mail: milam.benjamin@canon.co.jp).

The Road to 10,000 DR Systems

Year	Activity/Achievement
1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and development efforts for X-ray imaging sensors begins
1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CXDI-11, the world's first digital radiography system, is introduced First Canon DR system is installed at a hospital in Dortmund, Germany
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CXDI-11 is recognized in Japan with a Good Design Award in the Social Use Product category
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CXDI-22 DR Bucky sensor unit system is introduced
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CXDI-31, the world's first compact, portable DR system, is introduced
2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The portable CXDI-50G, with a large imaging area and lightweight design, is introduced The highly sensitive general-system CXDI-40C is introduced
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CXDI-50G is recognized in the United States with an IDEA (Industrial Design Excellence Awards) Silver Award in the Medical & Scientific Equipment category Canon's large-area sensor for real-time digital X-ray imaging is awarded the Imperial Invention Prize in Japan, the highest honor of the National Commendation for Invention
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canon supports relief efforts following the Sichuan earthquake in China with the donation of a CXDI-50G DR system to the Mianyang City Central Hospital in Sichuan Province The compact, portable CXDI-60G is introduced Canon announces plans to enter the medical fluoroscopic device market
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The portable, large-image-area CXDI-55G/55C DR systems, with a thickness of 15 mm and weighing 3.4 kg, is introduced The compact, high-sensitivity CXDI-60C is introduced



CXDI-11



CXDI-50G



Usage example
(Portable-type large-area sensor)

Cumulative Production

